

REMARKS

Reexamination and reconsideration of the application as amended are requested. Independent claim 1 has been amended to include equivalent limitations of dependent claim 3. Independent claim 9 has been amended to include equivalent limitations of dependent claim 11. Claims 3-4 and 11-12 have been canceled.

The examiner's rejection of claims 1, 2, 5, 9, 10, and 13-15 as being "anticipated", under 35 USC 102, is respectfully traversed. The examiner rejects these claims as being unpatentable over Lien (US 2003/0202219). Claims 2 and 5 depend from claim 1, and claims 10 and 13-15 depend from claim 9. Amended claim 1 is equivalent to claim 3 in independent form which the examiner indicated would be allowable. Amended claim 9 is equivalent to claim 11 in independent form which the examiner indicated would be allowable. Thus, claims 1, 2, 5, 9, 10, and 13-15 should now be allowable.

The examiner's rejection of claim 16 as being "obvious", under 35 USC 103, is respectfully traversed. The examiner rejects this claim as being unpatentable over Lien in view of well known art. Applicants agree with the examiner's taking Official Notice of the well known art. However, claim 16 depends from amended claim 9 which is equivalent to claim 11 in independent form which the examiner indicated would be allowable. Thus, claim 16 should now be allowable.

The examiner's objection to claim 17 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim is respectfully traversed. Claim 17 depends from claim 16 which depends from claim 9, and applicants' previous remarks concerning the allowability of claims 16 and 9 are herein incorporated by reference.

Inasmuch as each of the rejections and objections has been answered by the above remarks and amended claims, it is respectfully requested that the rejections and objections be withdrawn, and that this application be passed to issue. The Commissioner is authorized to

Serial No.: 10/730,504
Attorney Docket No.: 2002-0552.02
Amendment

charge any additional fees required or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0809.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 1/29/08

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